

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action mailed January 26, 2005, Applicant amends his application and requests reconsideration in view of the amendments and the following remarks. In this amendment claims 1 and 6 have been amended, claims 7-11 have been cancelled without prejudice and no claims have been added so that claims 1-6 remain pending.

The claims have been objected to for misnumbering. Applicant has amended the claims accordingly.

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended the claims to more clearly set forth the invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2 and 8 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,383,214 to Banas et al. (Banas). Claim 9 was rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,254,628 to Wallace et al. (Wallace). Claim 11 was rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0204749 to Gunderson. Claims 4-5 and 10 were rejected as being unpatentable over Banas in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,749,880 to Banas et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant has amended the claims based on the allowable subject matter indicated in the Office Action and cancelled other claims without prejudice. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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A favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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